

H-166

actually appears for the second time! This was started for the Fall 1947 mailing, but will end up in the first mailing for 1948. Ship all and sundry comments, brickbats, and dornicks to the writer (Hevelin) at 3761 Third Street, Riverside, California. Flattery will get you nowhere. If I inadvertently failed to get the first issue to you, you have got it coming, so drop me a line if you want a copy.

~~XX~~

A B O U T It was a mess, wasn't it? If it were not for the
T H I S added expense, the Membership would be justified
E L E C T I O N in demanding another try. The new constitution can't hurt us, though, and a couple of the newly-elected have stuck their necks out so far in denunciation of others that they will be in an embarrassing position if they fail to hold up their end and do any necessary prodding to see that the others do the same. At least the first deadline was met.

The only thing on the ballot I wish I had gotten a vote registered on was the amendment to cancel compulsory voting. With the results given, I could have thrown the decision into a tie and left us with something to argue about. I am thoroughly opposed to compulsory voting anywhere. Assessments or taxation on the privilege of non-voting are better methods, methinks....and it will be interesting to see how many memberships will end with the next election.

AREN'T I THE CARELESS ONE ABOUT FILLING THESE IN?

A M O N G Harry's question about fans changing from
T H E
B O M B # D O D G E R S their present way of life to survive the potential destruction thereof by the atom bomb has not elicited much response. There have probably been some few more, but the only serious comments I remember about it were by Ackerman, Ashley, Laney, Speer, and Warner. This would seem to indicate that our current fandom will not survive any possible laying of bombs in this country except by luck.

Of the five mentioned, apparently Warner has adopted a state of passiveness, while the rest have assumed that any attempt at escape would be futile or make the life we spend waiting too dreary and unpleasant to make it worth survival. Then, too, most of us have to be shocked by calamity before we really believe in it, and we forget it as quickly as we can. Most of the men fighting and dying in the last two wars have done so with a pretty strong conviction that a lot of men would die, but they would be



among the lucky ones who lived.....and I know that better after my hitch in the USMC than I did from reading it many times before.

We can all hope that we won't be too near the closest bomb. But we should start thinking of ways to be reasonably sure of it and get a chance to try surviving where it missed. If some of us like Davis, Widner, Swisher, Thompson, and Tucker would seriously consider this matter, some valuable contributions on the subject might result. In the meantime, I will expound my answer to Harry's question and just a smattering of my notions on what we might do, individually and collectively.

In a sense, Harry, the possible eminence of catastrophe has started to change me from a drifter to a fellow who is doing some rough planning for a vague and uncertain future rather than taking each week or month as it comes along. In 1945 I started paying for a little piece of land and a house over ten miles from the nearest community of any kind. I had no plans for it; just thought it was a good idea to put what I could save into property. At times I did toy with the idea of a tiny community of selected fans and friends, but now I figure on selling it within the next couple of years so I can get a larger place in the less densely populated area somewhere north of the Sacramento Valley. My current occupation gives me a small potential survival value, so I plan to be going to college by next September in some small community at least fifty miles from any probable (as nearly as I can determine) target. In the meantime, either right away or next summer, I have made tentative plans to spend a couple of months "roughing it" to see how essential to my well-being the pleasures of civilization are. I will continue to enjoy myself, but will not expect all the comforts and conveniences to which I am accustomed, which is apparently what Laney and Ashley want. That is vague, but it is a trend to something.

Collectively, if they will, fans wishing to do something about survival can get a number of things done. Any group deciding to try a survival colony should first select a site likely to be favorable; this would require a certain amount of discussion and investigation before any decision. A clear and simple method of locating it must then be worked out by a capable person or team; this should be made up by using directions and landmarks such as mountains, rivers, and lakes, rather than such artificial means as cities, roads, and the arbitrary distance measurements we now use. This could be done at no cost to anyone in money or obligation except for those who chart the location, and it would give potential colonists something which they could aim for. It might result in nothing more than a nucleus of colonists and a place to get started, but it would cost nothing. If we are hit by many bombs, getting there and taking over will be the important thing, and the first ones to get organized are those most likely to survive the following months.

Further effort toward such a colony would require that the hopefuls give up something from their present income and activity to help it become a reality. Many of us carry insurance, a number (See page 5)

UNDER THE KNIFE FANTASY AMATEUR, Sum 47--Fine if we ignore the result of the Evans contribution. Did El Ben Perdue miss the boat on the ballot deadline? Milt suggested three weeks after mailing. El Ben's last dated message was on 9 Aug, at which time he still had to get out FA and put the mailing together. He still set the deadline at 25 Aug. My envelope was metered at the Alhambra post office on 2 Sep.

BALLOT--Useless for me. I wrote in Speer, voted against everything but his choice of mailing Gates, and filed it because the deadline was already far too far in the past.

LOPSY, 21--Juffus is at a disadvantage in the voting...who will he get to write in a name? It looks like "no contest." How many even knew we were voting on an activity waiver? The wording of the ballot certainly gave us no way of knowing what is to be taken out or retained on this vote. Knowing that there is sure to be something like Jack's attack on the ideas presented by Stanley is probably the reason I read Speer's stuff first. He doesn't have to be even nearly right; he just finds something to work on and blasts away in a most resounding manner.

SUS PRO, Sum 47--I didn't start buying dirt to duck bombs, Jack. I did think of and discuss its potentialities as a Klan Center, but I think it would be impractical as a bomb-shelter. Did "default of macVort" refer to mimeo trouble or typer trouble? Are you sure it was Huxley who introduced the "cerebrotonic" and other types to the American public? It seems to me ESQUIRE had an article on them at the time I was overseas.

HORIZONS, 31--It is a pleasure to see another explanation for slippage on orifanac. I had thought I might pick up part of the pieces after my own lapse, but it becomes increasingly obvious that they will be too hard to lift. In order to straighten out the collecting service (started last year and suspended during recent months) and keep up FAPA activity, I will have to cut even correspondence to the bone. "This Has Nothing to do with Fantasy" is the best thing I have seen in answer to those advocating city life for its greater interests. My own experiences have been well scattered; I still find those in the smaller places best and most interesting.

PLENUM, Jul 47--Often over my head, but always early read.

FAN-DANGO, Sum 47--Seems to me the selfish way is the only way for most to handle their bomb-dodging. The only apparently feasible plan for a survival colony made up of a nucleus of fans was brought forth some time ago by someone else in FAPA, I think. It simply requires a prearranged rendezvous with the chosen few having a list of detailed directions for finding it and bringing their families and friends to it. If I have time, I would like to elaborate somewhat on this for the winter mailing. Your 132-page sneer really ought to be something to look forward to.

SLITTY TONES, 1--Another intellectual proving it! Nice title, too!

Now we will see what you do with it, gus. Keep up the good work on those space-fillers; more of us ought to use more care that way!

IGNOR, 1 & 2--Isn't the cover for 1 the picture a girl had Alva do to her order for a book-plate?

THE (unspeakable) THING, 3--'Way down in the middle of my prear-ranged stack I find the best thing in the mailing. This is amateur journalism at its positive zenith as far as fantasy fandom is concerned. Your efforts put to share the work of anyone else laying a claim to "labor of love" in any recent mailings. Laney's burlesque on Tripoli's seriousness was most enjoyable, but probably not the best thing in the issue. My vote for that goes to "Rathnaka" and its decorations. The mailings would be greatly improved by the addition of more material like "The Most Unkindest Cut" and the listings for FPH and FN. The cutting commentary in the fan mail section reminds one forcibly of THE NEW YORKER.

I almost laughed myself silly over the B half of BURBLINGS combined with BURBLINGS. Knowing Al and his environment helped.

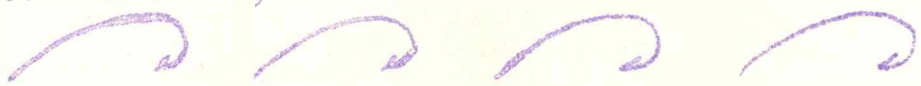
LIGHT, Pal 46 }
GEON, Jul 47 } --Worthwhile; nothing controversial.

HAROLD W CHENEY JR, Pal 47 }
MOLECULE, Jul 47 } --Read and filed.
DEN'S DEN, Sum 47 }

MICRON, 2--Thanks for the table of contents.

A PAPIENT'S MEMOIRS--Ancient and unnecessary. Who?

GET THEM OUT ON TIME
A TALE OF THE EVANS, Sum 47 --No comment.
THE PAPA CORRESPONDENT, 3



Spear has had Lockman and Hanna to himself except for my visit last October. Now I have found a couple of non-fan readers among my own circle. Charlie Lunson was unmasked when I saw a couple of the pro mags in his room at the YMCA. He is an interested reader, but goes no further.....except for borrowing some of the best of the old mag material. Harold Hamilton revealed his true colors less directly. A dozen or more acquaintances took over part of a downtown cafe one evening last spring. He was carting around a copy of "Generation of Vipers." We started talking and found a lot of mutual interests without getting into stf and fantasy. Eventually one of us brought that in, and we have been at it ever since. He buys the new books, borrows my magazines, and has even stuck his nose into a couple of fan mags; I read his books that I don't have and show off my knowledge of their predecessors. He avoids getting emeshed in fandom by putting gas in the car so we can go out on double dates--without stf becoming involved but once.

of us devote time and money to the church (even going so far as tithing), and others to social work. Development of the colony demands some such important ~~with~~ each of us.

The group could buy from ten to forty acres of suitable land, then, given time to act, we could lay up a supply of non-perishable foods and other basic essentials, tools, and (as Laney has suggested need for them) defensive equipment. This would require the outlay of cash from all concerned, the action of a chosen few to secrete the supplies and equipment. Carrying preliminary colonization beyond a general preparation of this nature and going on to the grandiose scheme presumably envisioned by the pair in LA would probably fail, but we who enter into such a project might do well to make our new homes somewhere in the general area of the site chosen. A distance of up to five hundred miles might be okay, but I would want to be at least that close unless I had really prepared myself for leading the sort of life led by the pioneers.

Part of the activity of all concerned should in the meantime be directed into two channels. First would be some sort of training for a pre-chosen vocation which each would assume when the project becomes an actuality. This might be achieved by full- or part-time schooling, changing work if an opportunity appeared, or constructive hobbies. Second would be a physical culture program which can keep us at all times in the best possible condition. We might need to endure long periods in the open and have to undertake long hikes in open country. How many of us can do so now? We may need to get along on whatever the countryside has to offer in the way of food. Anyone who now has to leave certain foods alone and requires others should find out why and try to eliminate the reason. Are our sight and hearing and other senses as acute as we can make them? How many others can give up wearing glasses by training as van Vogt has done, for instance?

For individual survival, each of us can prepare himself with physical training, a study of and mastery of the essentials of a Crusoe existence, and knowing ahead of time where we want to go and how to get there from wherever we may be. The suggestion of an escape-kit is worth thinking about. Such a kit should contain at least a combination knife, a boy scout axe, a permanent fire-maker, and a well-filled first-aid kit. Other desirable or near-essential items would be the canteen and seeds Laney mentions, several vari-sized needles up to a pretty large size (we might have to use make-shift thread after a while), a BOY SCOUT HANDBOOK (suggested by Spoor on my trip a year ago), a strong, durable line (rope, that is), and a light tarpaulin. All this might possibly be done up in a sleeping-bag or bedroll.

but i was thinking of a plan to dye one's whiskers green, and always

Bob Heinlein had a story in the October (I think) ARGOSY. Mundane, really, but based on the possibility of an earthquake "pulling the cork" in the fault between Imperial Valley and the Pacific.

U N D E R FANTASY AMATEUR, Feb 47--We need more of Burbee like
T H E this. Well-produced, neat, and business-like.
K N I F E

HORIZONS, 32--"Recentest Trends in Science Fiction" can be one of the most worthwhile items in the mailing, Harry, if the rest of the gang who still read will check up on you and see how well you have covered the situation. The book review was especially enjoyed because I just recently read the book. Fisher does seem to be about the best man yet on the prehistoric man theme; in fact, I agree with you on all the review except the difficulty of shifting viewpoint. That probably will vary with each reader; to me, it did not seem awkward at all.

GRULZAK--I am glad to see that you will still be with us some of the time, Joe, even though VAMPIRE and FANTASY REVIEW are gone. I hope you will continue to turn this out at least twice a year. You give Crane-Wesson competition when it comes to care in preparation, and your mixture of seriousness and tongue-in-cheek makes your zine rate high.

PANORAMA, Sep 47--You are off to a good start. Keller tale okay, convention items appreciated, and the whole thing is neat and shows more promise than anything I have seen from you before.

FAN-DANGO, Feb 47--You must be making a lot of friends with all the muck-raking you are getting out lately. Do you honestly think you stand a chance of clearing up the LA situation this way?

PHANTOM, Oct 47--You and Harry, huh? Your views on the shift over to Herwin are reasonable. Sam is turning out mags that come close to being what real or potential fans will look for. ASF is & probably will always be for post-graduate readers and fans. Since you enjoyed "To Walk the Night" so much, get hold of "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes." I thank the rooster-booster for tipping me off.

PLENUM, 7--Thanks for the blow-by-blow account of the trials, tribulations, and pleasures of planning and putting on the con. I wish I could have been there to help with enjoying the pleasures.

PAPA FOREVER--You roll me in the aisles, my boy, but I suspect that someone put you up to it.....and he shouldn't have. You can use your satire and humor to much better advantage.

FRAPPE, Jul 47 }
GLOBE, Oct 47 } Read and enjoyed.
SLIPY POVS, 2 }

The rest was read and filed.

use so large a fan that they could not be seen---ways and means is

WILD HAIR and SYNAPSE have arrived okay and contain commentable items I will have to leave until next time. I will say, though, that I think it is up to the editor to decide about AMAZING.